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EDITORIAL NOTES.

"And now abideth faith, hope, love these three; but the greatest of these is love."

The speedy closing of the Zakka Khel punitive expedition brings much gladness to many hearts. On another page we give a graphic account of the return of the army and the closing event of the War, as written by the special correspondent of the *C. & M. Gazette*.

The *Review of Religions* is much disturbed by the "bigotry" of the Editor of the *Harvest Field* because he said that the Muhammadan rulers of India "broke in pieces the idols with his mace and burned the temples with fire, while he offered the idolater the alternative of death or the honour of Islam." The bigotry of the Christian editor consists in his having cited the facts of Indian History to illustrate the bigotry of the Muslim conqueror! The Muslim critic then goes on to say, "It is strange that men living in India should be so ignorant of its history." We would say; *It is strange that any Muslim living in India should be so ignorant of its history.*

The usual role of the *Review of Religions*, which introduces its response to its critics by assertions as to ignorance or bigotry, may satisfy his Ahmaddaya following, but it cannot take the place of argument. Admitting, as the Muslim reviewer does, that "in the heat of the struggle" or "at the triumphant hour of conquest," a "conqueror may have ordered the destruction of a temple or broken an idol;" or going still further and grant-

ing "there may have been spasmodic outbreaks of fanaticism," we are by no means ready to close our eyes to the testimony of history and declare that this is all, and that to say that such intolerance was the rule "is decidedly the most absurd position which any sensible man can take." This attempt to ignore or to deny the history of Muslim intolerance in India, is singularly wanting in candor.

The first expedition of the Muslims sent in 711 A.D. by Al Hajaj, the Governor of Chaldea, had for its objective the overthrow of idolatry, including the slaughter of the impenitent idolaters, the destruction of their temples and idols. The law of the Quran, which regulated this and all other wars of the Orthodox Muslims reads thus: "When ye encounter the unbelievers, strike off their heads, until ye have made a great slaughter among them: and bind them in bonds; and either give them a free dismissal afterwards or exact a ransom; until the war shall have laid down its arms" (Quran Chap xlviii. 4, 5). The Caliph Al Hajaj declared his purpose in sending this expedition to be "the bringing of the nation under the dominion of the true religion."

This was the purpose of Mahmud of Ghazni in the 17 expeditions he led into India from Ghazni. Ferishta tells us about all we know of these expeditions. In regard to one of them undertaken in 1011 A. D. he says: "The passion of war fermenting in the mind of Mahmud, he resolved upon the conquest of Thanesar, a city about thirty kos North West from Delhi, the seat of a considerable government; famous for its sanctity and subservience to the Brahmanical religion. Having taken Thanesar, and demolished

the idols, he marched to Delhi, which he quickly reduced, and thence returned with vast riches." Two years afterwards, he drove from his dominions the king of Lahore, and overran Cashmere, compelling the inhabitants to acknowledge the prophet." This is a sample record for every conqueror in the whole catalogue.

And now where was the toleration? The subject population were permitted to exist on condition of paying a poll-tax, just as they now exist under every Muslim government in the world. The miserable *zimmi*s have privileges but no rights. They are permitted as a privilege to practise their religious rites and worship under certain limitations, but they forfeit all political and social rights. They may enter government employ and often hold responsible posts, but their tenure of office may cease at any moment. Any protest against oppressive taxation, or the resistance of the oppressor, or any organized effort to secure equal rights with their Muslim neighbours has always been, and still is, liable to be treated as a rebellious act to be punished by fire and sword.

Then in the Muslim community anywhere, we look in vain for any display of toleration towards the Muslim who would accept an alien faith. Where in India today can a Muslim accept the Christian faith and remain unmolested by his Muslim neighbours?

The exceptional toleration of Akbar the Great, Jahangir and Shahjahan, was in no true sense characteristic of Islam. It was deprecated by the orthodox party of his time. It was a transgression of the Law of Islam in the interest of policy. When Aurangzeb secured the reins of Govern-

ment he returned to the letter of the Law and once more the poll-tax was imposed and war made upon the idolaters until all India was covered by the ruined temples and broken idols.

"There are still thousands of Hindu temples, hundreds of thousands of idols and millions of Hindus," but they do not "believe the sweeping statement" made by the editor of the *Harvest Field*. They exist in spite of Muslim iconoclasm and they owe no debt of gratitude to Muslim tolerance.

The fact that many Christian nations, contrary to the commands of the Prince of Peace, adopted the crusading methods of Islam, made war upon weaker nations and committed horrible crimes in the name of the Holy cross, in no way mitigates the intolerance of Islam. The Christian was intolerant in spite of his Gospel of Peace. The Moslem, in his intolerance of alien faiths, was and is consistent and obedient to the requirements of Islam.

THE B'HOI REVIVAL.

Of this revival a lady writes: I went for 23 days to the B'hoi last month and came home much impressed by the great work our God is doing among the B'hois. During our tour we had the privilege of "opening" a new chapel at Mowrong, the village where the Rev. Rae Bhajur (a Khassee) works. It is a fine building—the best chapel we have on the Mission field, no doubt—large enough to seat 300 people comfortably though over 350 were seated in it the opening Sunday. The story of undaunted faith and answered prayer connected with the erection of this chapel is like a page of George Muller's Life and we all marvelled and rejoiced. The chapel has cost over Rs. 4500, out of which Rs. 3500 was raised in this country and no special appeal or specified plan to collect money was attempted. Yet on the Sunday night before the meeting, there was over Rs 11/ to the good in the bag after paying all expenses.

We had a Presbytery, too, in the B'hoi and the devotional service on Sunday night was a most enthusiastic one. A devotional subject had been given previously for discussion at the meeting, but without any premeditation on the part of men, God led the speakers to touch on the importance of supporting God's work; and you never saw a more interested audience, as one speaker after another stood up and emphasized this great need, and I believe it will result in great good. The greater number advocated putting aside a handful of rice from the quantity taken to prepare the morning and evening meal. In some cases this came to six seers a month. Others having a smaller hand had only four seers. It was proposed to appoint two women, deaconesses, in each church to collect this rice every week and to be responsible for the disposal of it

I cannot tell you how insprising it all was.

Another Sunday we had a District Meeting—more of a Sunday School gathering. We had the people questioned publicly on the "History of Jesus Christ" and from a catechism called, "The Christian Instructor." The people repeated portions altogether, and were then questioned upon them, and we had a good time.

Opium and drink are making terrible inroads into some of the B'hoi villages and the work suffers seriously on that account.

The Meetings everywhere were quiet and great reverence was shown during every Service. I felt that the villages, where the Revival has been at work, has made great strides compared to those which were not much touched. There is a fuller understanding of spiritual things and a realization of fellowship with God that they could never have experienced, had the Spirit of God not taught them."

We notice that in both letters reference is made to the terrible curse of opium—smoking. Let us pray that this evil be speedily removed... We see also that much is made of the word of God. The blessings of the Revival must remain when men build on this foundation. INDIA KEEP AWAKE. Thy King has not departed.

J. P. J.

ZAKKA KHEL EXPEDITION BACK AT PESHAWAR.

PESHAWAR, March 2.

As suddenly and as secretly as the Bazar Valley Field Force massed itself at Peshawar and quietly passed into the hill regions, just as suddenly and secretly has its work been brought to an end.

The conclusion was dramatic. For two whole days no news was permitted to go through of the expedition. Then down from the narrow road from Chora to the Khyber pass poured an endless stream of soldiery,—thousands upon thousands of mules, and long processions of men who showed signs of hard work in all kinds of weather with their unshaven faces and mud bespattered clothes.

The beginning of the end commenced when General Willcocks met about three hundred Afridi representatives of the many tribes on this part of the frontier, excluding Zakka Khel, on Friday afternoon. The day was dull and cloudy, and the hills wore their gloomiest aspect. These old rugged tribesmen seemed to fit naturally into the surrounding country as, their dull grey shawls blown about in the blustering biting wind, they slowly marched across plain to the appointed place marked out with mats and lined with troops. The ceremony lasted only a few minutes. A very simple agreement was read out in guttural Pushtu and listened to with pro-

found attention. Then a few of the chief men rose one by one and addressed their group of followers; and, assent from them being obtained, pledged themselves to abide by what had been written with a simple handshake. By next day's noon Walai, as far as the British were concerned, was an empty valley littered with rank fodder, bags and tins.

Early in the morning, hours before dawn, Walai was all turmoil and noise. Dotted all over the valley were numerous wood fires round which men and animals struggled and writhed in slush and mud. It had rained during the night, and heavy clouds were still being driven over the hill-tops by the biting wind, while lower down the mountain sides fleecy white mists enwreathed the pickets who had been stationed at dominating points all night and who were to be the last to leave the camp when the troops marched out. Meanwhile men and mules seemed to be sorting themselves out, and by the time that a murky grey tint suffused the scudding clouds showing that before the sun had risen one could hear a steady crunch crunch as the men began to pace down the stony river bed which leads to Chora.

Slowly as the morning wore on loaded animals and men slipped and staggered down the muddy incline out of the camp. The General and his staff mounted a slight eminence overlooking the river and had a view of the now deserted camp and the pickets on the hilltops around. Almost as the last mule left the camp the signal was given for the pickets to come down and to form part of the rearguard. This they did; those overlooking the Bazar Valley first and the others quickly following.

The withdrawal is on all hands admitted to be a masterly piece of work, although not a shot was fired by the enemy. If any had been daring enough to interfere, either with the convoys on ahead or with the retiring pickets, they would have been most effectively repulsed. This skilful withdrawal makes a fitting close to an expedition which has been remarkable on all sides for its effectiveness and for the excellent manner in which it has been throughout conducted.

C. & M. Gazette.

In England, on the continent of Europe and in the United States, 750 Hebrews are now preaching the Gospel to Gentile congregations, these congregations themselves having once been of the "ancient faith." In the year 1800, there was not a single Jewish-Christian mission in existence. To-day there are 32 in America, with some 80 workers, 28 in Great Britain, with 481 workers; 20 elsewhere in Europe, with 40 workers; and 9 in other lands, with 47 workers.

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A GOLDEN SECRET.

If ever you find yourself where you have so many things pressing upon you that you hardly know how to begin, let me tell you a secret. Take hold of the very first one that comes to hand, and you will find the rest all fall into file and follow after, like a company of well-drilled soldiers; and though work may be hard to meet when it charges in a squad, it is easily vanquished when you can bring it into line. You may have often seen the anecdote of the man who was asked how he had accomplished so much in his life. "My father taught me," was the reply, "when I had anything to do, to go and do it." There is the secret—the magic word, "NOW."—

HELPPFUL THOUGHTS.

WOMEN IN EGYPT

An Egyptian girl student—a Moslem, be it remembered—has just taken her B. A. degree. She is the first Egyptian woman to gain the distinction; but she will probably not long be the only one, for already there are seven government schools for girls, staffed by trained women teachers from the "Women's Normal School" at Boulak. The women of Egypt are thus beginning to regain the free and honored position which they enjoyed more than two thousand years before the time of Christ. Then woman was the mistress of the house. She inherited equally with her brothers, and had full control over her property. According to M. Parteret, she was "judiciously the equal of man, having the same rights, and being treated in the same fashion." She could also bring actions and even plead in the courts. She practiced the art of medicine, and as priestess had authority in the temples. To crown all, as queen, she was often the highest in the land.

Christian Life

SELF-FORGETFULNESS.

Everything has its wonders, even darkness and silence, and I learn whatever state I may be in therein to be content. Sometimes, it is true, a sense of isolation infolds me like a cold mist as I sit alone and wait at life's shut gate. Beyond there is light and music and sweet companionship; but I may not enter. Fate, silent, pitiless—bars the way. Fain would I question His imperious decree, for my heart is still undisciplined and passionate; but my tongue will not utter the bitter futile words that rise to my lips, and they fall back into my heart like unshed tears. Silence sits immense upon my soul. Then comes Hope with a smile and whispers, "There is joy in self-forgetfulness." So I try to make the light in others' eyes my sun, the music in others' ears my symphony, the smile on others' lips my happiness."

Helen Keller.

FINLAND'S NEW CONSTITUTION.

The Czar of Russia has designs on the Finnish Diet. He fears the woman influence in that body because he avers it is "against the church, against the nobility, against the use of alcoholic liquors and things like that."

"To my mind," he stated to Premier Stolypin, "the women are the most dangerous element in politics, for they are radicals and very nervous. They have a great influence over the men and can arouse the whole country in a war against me."

It would be interesting in the light of the known attitude of the emperor toward reforms of this character to predict the fate of the new constitution which has recently been submitted to the Czar by the Finnish Diet. This document was begun twelve months ago with the consent of Nicholas and the co-operation of the governor-general. It makes sweeping changes in the existing regime, and includes important concessions in the imperial prerogative.

In the constitution, the status of Finland is defined as that of a semi-sovereign state, bound to Russia by a personal tie only—the identity of the emperor- duke. In the field of finance the people secure full control. The emperor surrenders his exclusive privilege of levying customs duties and the levying and disbursement of ordinary taxation, which he hitherto has enjoyed. Hereafter the right to levy taxes, expend the revenues, raise state loans, impose a customs tariff and call the men of Finland to military service will depend on the concurrence of the diet. The constitution also declares that women are equally eligible to public service with men.

THE USE OF DARKNESS.

Darkness seems to be as necessary to life and growth in this world as is light. An earnest, tireless worker for Christ who has recently suffered through months of illness, writes a cheery word of sympathy to a fellow-sufferer, and adds about herself: "It is a long time since, I have done a day's work; it is only a half hour's work, or may be fifteen minutes at a time. And many days have been in a dark room, I wonder, sometimes, if a dark room is as necessary for the developing of characters as it is for the development of negatives. If so perhaps a time will come when I can look back upon the dark-room days with thankfulness. Just now, I want to work." To wait and to trust, if God directs that, even while one longs to be out in the light and at work, is to gain and grow in the development which only the dark room can give. How good it is that God can be trusted to decide when the darkness is needed!—Sunday School Times.

WEIGHT OF A LION.

"What does a lion weigh?" Ask that question of any acquaintance and see what he will say. Those who best know the look of the king of beasts, and how small his lithe body really is will probably come farthest from the truth. About three hundred to three hundred and fifty pounds is a usual estimate. But this is below the mark. A full-grown lion will tip the scales at no less than five hundred pounds. Five hundred and forty pounds is the record for an African. His bone is solid and heavy as ivory.

The tiger runs the lion very close. A Bengal tiger killed two years ago by an English officer scaled five hundred and twenty pounds. A tiger of this size has, however, considerably greater muscular strength than the biggest lion.

Few people know that a grizzly bear can give points to any other carnivorous animal in point of strength. A grizzly bear weighing just four hundredweight has been watched carrying a heifer of more than two-thirds its own weight for two miles up the most steep and rugged mountain side and this without pausing one instant for rest. The grizzly bear is the largest and most powerful of all the bear tribe, but his cousin, the cinnamon bear, runs him very close; and the big white polar bear, though not really so dangerous a customer, is capable of performing the most extraordinary feats of strength.

Sunday School Advocate.

SAFE—OR SORRY.

"I DON'T quite know what to do about it. It does not seem wrong—but—" and the hesitating young man or woman stands halting between two opinions, uncertain whether or not to do the thing that does not seem wrong, nor yet quite right.

"Better be safe than sorry," is a good rule to remember at such a time. If a thing does not seem all right, then be safe, and let it alone. It is what looks almost innocent—which makes you hesitate a minute before you decide to do it—that leads after a while to what is plainly wrong. But if the decision is on the safe side, it leads in the other and better direction. Not only will that danger spot be safely passed, but it will be easier to pass the next one. Every right decision makes the next easier, and helps to fix the habit of deciding aright. Fixing the good habit of being safe is the very best way to avoid the opposite one, which will lead sooner than one realizes to the being sorry.

EAST AND WEST.

Bless, O my soul, the Lord thy God.
And not forgetful be
Of all his gracious benefits
He hath bestowed on thee.

TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, March 7.

The Kaiser's letter to Lord Tweedmouth has caused a great sensation. Both the British and German press consider its immediate publication desirable in order to prevent a recurrence of the ill feeling between the two countries though it is recognised that the Kaiser's consent to its publication is essential.

The German papers do not doubt that the contents of the letter were harmless, and surmise that, it referred to the naval discussions in Great Britain, which dwell on the German navy to the exclusion of others.

A despatch from Peking states that Japan has sent an ultimatum to China regarding the seizure of the steamer *Satsu Maru* in which the restoration of steamer and cargo is demanded besides payment of full indemnity within reasonable time.

In event of default or postponement Japan will take immediate action.

LONDON, March 8.

Reuter learns that China has apologised to Japan for the hauling down of the flag of the *Tasu Maru* and promises to punish the responsible officials. China replies later regarding the seizure of arms and ammunition.

LONDON, March 7.

A telegram to *The Times* from Tokio states that Count Okum speaking at a meeting of the Indo-Japanese Society declared himself to be a worshipper of England.

He considered that India ought to be profoundly thankful that she was ruled by such a power.

Count Okuma added that Japan must seek access to Indian markets for the purpose of redressing the balance of trade.

Large reinforcements of French troops have been sent to Ainsefra which is threatened by a concentration of tribes in the extreme south of Morocco.

General Bailoud, Commanding the French troops at Ainsefra telegraphs that a force of Moors consisting of about 4,000 men is collecting on the Algerian frontier in favour of the cause of Mulai Hafid.

Lieutenant Shackleton's ship the *Nimrod* belonging to the British Antarctic expedition, which left Lyttelton on January 1st last, has returned to Christ Church New Zealand. Lieutenant Shackleton remains camped at the foot of Mount Erebus. Letters from him describes a boisterous voyage in a small craft, and a terrible blizzard in the pack ice, when hailstones as large as potatoes fell and the crew who were landing stores at the time narrowly escaped destruction.

London, March 9.

Mr. Lambert in the Commons replying to a question regarding the Beresford Scott incident stated that the Admiralty had directed the Commander-in-Chief to convey to Admiral Scott their disapprobation of his signal.

The Army committee on tuberculosis in

the Army recommends reserving a number of beds in civil sanatoriums at the expense of army funds. The Committee emphasises the fact that the State is not justified in discharging an infected soldier as he becomes a menace to civilians.

Five hundred men are working to rescue the miners entombed in Hamstead colliery.

King Edward has telegraphed from Biarritz that he is deeply concerned at the disaster and asks for full reports.

Queen Alexandra has given a hundred pounds to the families of the men who perished in the Hamstead colliery fire.

Reuter telegraphs from Peking that China still maintains that the *Tatsu Maru* dispute cannot be settled without thorough enquiry. China has proposed that the munitions on board the vessel shall be recalled to Japan and the shipping permit for them cancelled. She also asks for pledges that the Japanese trade in munitions will be suppressed.

Japan has intimated her willingness to consider these points.

Reuter telegraphs from Suakin that it is reported that Bedouins attacked the Egyptian Holy Carpet near Medina and that ten soldiers were killed and one gun captured. The caravan was compelled to return to Medina.

A telegram to the *Times* from Teheran states that the Shah has issued a rescript in which he complains of the apathy of Parliament in securing the discovery of the persons who threw bombs at his motor. The Shah states that he will himself shortly take measures. The rescript has caused uneasiness.

Ghivam-el Mulk the famous Forsistan magnate has been murdered at Shiraz.

The publication of the text of the amended Congo Treaty has evoked strong dissatisfaction owing to the onerousness of the obligations imposed on Belgium.

The sentences on general Stoessel has been commuted to ten years imprisonment in a fortress.

Calcutta, March 9.

While His Excellency the Viceroy's motor car was on its way to Barrackpore on Friday, the 6th instant passing along Upper Circular road, a number of stones were thrown at the car from a Bengali village about 200 yards above the Deaf and Dumb School. On its way back to Calcutta stones were again thrown at the motor from the same village. Some of the stones struck the motor, and one thrown on the second occasion is said to have struck the Viceroy on the chest. Glass inside the window of the car was broken. The matter is in the hands of the Criminal Investigation Department.

Kondruski, the Russian railway thief, has been sentenced to eighteen months' vigorous imprisonment on a charge of robbing a travelling party of foreigners on their way to Hyderabad. The magistrate said that the travellers were practically at the mercy of thieves of this description, and must be protected. He therefore awarded an exemplary punishment.

London, March 10.

Mr. Gupta had an interview with Mr. Morley yesterday and will take his seat in Council to-day.

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